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plans for giving expression to those principles ; for even under the modern liberalism of the Peelites, their maxim has been to do everything for the people on the Austrian model of governmental machinery, whereas the precept of the elder and consistent reformers is to let the people do that for themselves which the law and the constitution allow them. Nor did the good offices of Lord Lansdowne stop here. When differences arose between the reform section of the cabinet, when the views of Lord John Russell and Lord Palmerston on certain points clashed, or were said to have clashed (for the real facts never transpired), Lord Lansdowne was appealed to by each, and succeeded in reconciling both ; and by a singular coincidence, the noble viscount, at the time the disagreement came to a rupture, was on a visit to Bowwood, the seat of the Marquis—the confidential friend and guest of the man with whom he had his first political quarrel not far short of fifty years before ! namely, at the election for the University of Cambridge, when he defeated the noble Marquis, then Lord Henry Petty, in 1806, Palmerston then representing the principles of Pitt, and his competitor, of course, those of Fox. This reminds us that it is now time to say a few words chronologically of the career of the subject of our memoir.

The family of the noble Marquis, Petty, traces its ancestry to a very remote period, the eleventh century, when one of the race figured considerably in the wars of Strongbow, in Ireland, where they obtained vast possessions, and where at the present day the family still own immense tracts of fine territory, especially in Kerry, which gives the title of earl to the eldest son of the Marquis of Lansdowne. The present eldest son of the Marquis is, however, Earl of Shelburne—the Earl of Kerry being dead some years—and why the eldest living does not take the title of his defunct brother, is a puzzle to our very limited heraldic sagacity. The family of Petty was altogether obscure and unknown in England, and very insignificant in Ireland, if, indeed, they could be said to be known at all there, for many generations, till the middle of the sixteenth century, when William Petty, the son of a clothier in Romsey, in Hampshire (where Lord Palmerston was also born), attained wealth and subsequently great public distinction by his proficiency, first in mechanical and afterwards in medical pursuits. These latter he followed with infinite profit in Ireland for many years, investing his gains in land and attaining the dignity of knight himself and a barony in her own right for his wife, Baroness Shelburne. One of his sons became the Earl of Shelburne, and famous as a politician in the reign of George II., and is described by Mr. Disraeli in “*Coningsby*,” as one of the greatest politicians in English annals, though the history of what he did is all but unknown to posterity. The earl’s son (father of the present marquis), was himself for some time prime minister to George III. ; so that we see the subject of our sketch has large hereditary claims to political eminence—a quality, however, which does not seem to be further transmissible, for his son, the present Earl of Shelburne, of whom we have just spoken, though long in parliament for the family borough of Calne, in Wiltshire, and for a brief period a Lord of the

Treasury, has never acquired the smallest prominence as a speaker or otherwise. The present Marquis was born in 1780, and consequently is in his seventy-fifth year. He was educated first at Westminster School, subsequently at Edinburgh, where, in common with many others who have since reached prominent stations, he was a pupil of the celebrated Dugald Stewart, and afterwards at Cambridge, where he became a Master of Arts. Availing himself of the brief Peace of Amiens, he made a hurried run through France with M. Dumont, and then took his seat for Calne ; his maiden-speech being full of promise, which his after efforts fully realised, especially on the impeachment of Lord Melville, for the malversation of public moneys as Treasurer of the Navy. In the first election for Cambridge, which he contested with Lord Palmerston about this time, he succeeded—in the second he was defeated ; the latter being owing to his advocacy of civil and religious claims, in contrast with the restrictive and bigoted views then upheld by Pitt’s followers. In the budgets brought in by Lord Petty, while Chancellor of the Exchequer to Fox, there was no great room for the exhibition of what may be called popular finance, the war demanding new taxes instead of the remission or old ones ; and the necessity of the noble lord to continue the income-tax, which he and his associates had long denounced, exposed him to considerable ridicule, of which the caricaturists of the time were not slow to take advantage : but of his great financial ability no doubt was ever entertained ; and to this day few men in either house can deliver a speech more instructive or rich in information on any subject involving an exposition of the true canons of political economy, especially of a fiscal kind. The death of Fox, followed by the brief experiment of Earl Grenville’s ministry (who, however, passed the Abolition of Slavery Bill, but were turned out for their support of Catholic emancipation), broke up the Reform party completely, as far as regarded their prospects of office. It was not till 1827 that the modified ministry of Canning gave the most moderate liberals a chance ; and, accordingly, his lordship, who had been in the upper house since 1809, was made Home Secretary, an office which he filled with great credit. Again, the death of his chief drove the noble Marquis into opposition, of which he became the leader in the Peers till the formation of the Grey cabinet in 1830, when he became President of the Council, the office now held by Lord John Russell, and continued to fill it during every liberal administration that has since been formed, with the exception of the present, in which he holds no office, though a member of the cabinet. It is needless to add, after what we have stated, that in every cabinet to which he has belonged, and in every position which he has filled, whether in office or opposition, whether in public or private, his lordship has been the warm friend of enlightenment among the people and progressive liberty in all national institutions. He has always employed his great hereditary wealth, which was largely augmented by matrimonial alliance with the affluent family of the Ilcheesters, in a wise munificence, promoting literature and the arts, with a generosity doubly valuable, because of the taste and discrimination that guide it.

THE CONVENT OF SANTA ENGRACIA, AT SARAGOSSA.

Those who have read Napier’s invaluable history of the Peninsular War will remember the principal circumstance in modern times for which Saragossa is remarkable. We allude to the famous siege of the place by the French under Marshals Mortier and Lannes, which lasted from July 15, 1808, to Feb. 1, 1809, with only some occasional and slight interruptions. It was not till 6,000 men had perished in battle, and more than 30,000 men, women, and children had been destroyed by famine, pestilence, or cruel outrage, that the French succeeded in taking possession of the city. The siege bore a strong resemblance to that of Jerusalem in the obstinacy of the resistance made, the sufferings of the besieged, and their fanatical barbarity towards one another as well as the enemy.

Among other sacred edifices which were then destroyed, was the convent of Santa Engracia, the ruins of which we have depicted.

It was founded by Ferdinand and Isabella, whose reign is memorable on many accounts, particularly for its connexion with the immortal discoveries of Columbus. Much has been said in praise of the cloister, which is adorned with marble columns and numerous armorial bearings ; but not more than it fairly deserves. In this cloister was buried Jerome Blancas, the historian of Aragon, who died in 1590. It was over the smoking ruins of the convent that the French forced their way into the city in the terrible siege of 1809. The doorway, now riddled with bullets, is a remarkable work of the fifteenth century. It is thus described by Alexander Delaborde. “The doorway, which is in the form of an altar-screen, consists of two architectural portions. The first is adorned with four columns, and the statues of four learned ecclesiastics. The second contains three statues, that of the Virgin with the infant Jesus, and those of King Ferdinand V. and his Queen Isabella kneeling on

each side. These two portions are surmounted by a cross and statues of the Virgin and St. John. The arch of the door is ornamented with heads of seraphim, and near them are two ancient medallions, above which are written the words 'Numa Pompilius, M. Antonius.'" The celebrated traveller adds, that in the interior of the church the decorations in marble and gold were distributed with artistic effect. There might be seen the magnificent mausoleum of the historian, Jerome Zurita, who died in 1570.

A side-door led to a second church, whence there was a descent to the crypt of *Las Santas Masas*. "This is," says Delaborde, "a veritable catacomb, in which are deposited the relics of many martyrs. The arched roof, which rises about twelve feet, and is covered with stars upon an azure ground, rests upon thirty small columns of different sorts of marble, forming six small naves. Here are preserved, among other things, several crystal vases con-

taining the blood and ashes of various martyrs, and the head of Saint Engracia in a silver shrine, adorned with a necklace of precious stones. There is a pit in the middle of this church, surrounded by an iron balustrade, which is said to contain the ashes of a great number of the faithful, whom Dacian had burnt at Saragossa."

Within the last twenty years Saragossa has witnessed fresh proofs of Spanish valour. Cabañero, a general in the interest of Don Carlos, managed to enter the city by night, and got possession of the principal posts, on the 2nd of March, 1838. Even under these apparently desperate circumstances, the people never for one moment lost their courage. Totally unprepared as they were—without leaders, and very insufficiently provided with arms—they nevertheless rushed upon the intruding force with dauntless spirit, and ultimately succeeded in capturing 2,000, and driving out the remainder.



THE CONVENT OF SANTA ENGRACIA.

THE LAKE OF SAARNEN.

No portion of the continent of Europe abounds in picturesque and romantic scenery to so large an extent as the mountain land of Switzerland. There the most striking and sublime aspects of nature are accumulated, forming a source of perpetual inspiration to the painter and the poet. There the mountain rears its snow-capped summit to the clouds, the glacier presents its glittering and slippery front, and the torrent brawls among the rocks which obstruct its passage through the valley, or falls thundering down the face of almost perpendicular precipices. There the sublime

and beautiful phenomenon of the rainbow is seen above the cataract, and the lammergeyer wheels above the pinnacles of the mountains, marking the bounding chamois or the browsing goat for its prey. Not only is Switzerland the most elevated portion of Europe, but the beauties of its scenery are condensed, as it were; so that the tourist has not to travel over many miles of uninteresting country to admire a waterfall here, or climb a mountain there. In Switzerland all is picturesque; the tourist cannot take a walk of a few miles without meeting some object to awaken his interest and